

**FAIRFAX COUNTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL
MINUTES**

March 15, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joseph Jozefczyk, Braddock District
Michael Champness, Dranesville District
Scott Wilks, Alternate, Dranesville District
Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District
Lula Bauer, Lee District
Barbara R. Lowrey, Mason District
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District
Roger Sims, Springfield District
David Lacey, Sully District
Jeffrey E. Stein, Town of Clifton
Sam Althoff, Town of Vienna
Rob Hahne, Fairfax County Baseball Council
William Pruiett, Girls' Fast Pitch Softball Council
Carl Coan, Adult Softball Council
Mark Meana, Fairfax County Football Board of Commissioners
Ralph Wills, Fairfax County Soccer Advisory Council
Bill Harvey, Fairfax County Lacrosse Council
William J. Stephens, Fairfax County Women's Sports Programs

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES:

Paul Jansen, Fairfax County School Board
Christopher A. Leonard, Department of Community and Recreation Services
Todd Johnson, Fairfax County Park Authority

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Elizabeth T. Bradsher, Member-At-Large
Wesley "Mike" Viilo, Mt. Vernon District
J. Marcelo Gangotena, Diversity-At-Large
Jerry Carter, Town of Herndon
Tom Moore, Fairfax County Youth Basketball Council
Tricia Johnson, Fairfax County Volleyball Council

GUESTS: None

Meeting Opening – Mr. McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. Mr. Leff called the roll, and a quorum was present.

Administrative Items - The February 15, 2006, minutes were approved with one change: under "New Business," last paragraph, delete the word "rectangular" from Ralph Wills's letter to the Park Authority.

Chairman's Items – Mr. McLaughlin spoke of recent events in the Providence District. He said Pulte Homes agreed to sponsor \$750,000 to build an artificial turf field near the Vienna Metro West Project.

Committee Reports – Mr. McLaughlin said the Sports Forum/Character Awards ceremony is going to be set around October.

Matters of Interest from Governing Bodies

Information – Board of Supervisors: Nothing to report

Information – Fairfax County Public Schools: Mr. Jansen reported that the School Board has begun moving its offices to its new headquarters in Merrifield.

Information – Fairfax County Park Authority: Mr. Todd Johnson introduced himself as a new representative to the FCAC from the Park Authority.

Information – Community and Recreation Services: Mr. Leonard reported that the county proposed funding for three artificial turf fields. This funding, which should be approved in May by the Board of Supervisors, would be used for Mason District Park field #3, Wakefield Park field #5, and Waters field. Mr. Leonard also said that a committee will review the field selection process. Mr. Meana stated that funding for these fields is currently being paid for by redirected funds from the users. He said he wants the county to put more county money into this mix. Ms. Bauer asked why it takes so long to have a field turfed in Fairfax County. Mr. Sims was concerned about the cost being quoted as \$1.2 million to turf a field. Mr. Leonard spoke about walk-on use at fields. He said about \$900,000 has been included in the budget to help curb walk-on use on county fields. Special thanks to Lula Bauer for this funding.

New Business

Mr. Wills moved to have the Athletic Council send a complimentary letter to Mayor Seeman of Vienna for the outstanding part that the town of Vienna played in completing the turf field project at Waters field. Mr. Meana will work with Mr. McLaughlin to draft the letter. Mr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Leonard spoke of progressive disciplinary procedures. He said CRS is frequently requested by citizens to review league actions in disciplinary matters. He is looking for assistance from the Council to develop policy that will guide CRS's involvement in such issues. Mr. McLaughlin, having been involved in a recent appeals committee hearing, emphasized that

CRS is not looking to supersede a league decision but rather ensure that the decision was made in a fair, consistent, and clearly defined manner. Mr. Sims suggested that the Council bring forth some advisory literature as a model guideline. This should include a code of conduct as well as the disciplinary ramifications for not following the code of conduct. Mr. Leonard's request will be sent to the Rules Committee.

Mr. Hahne spoke of funding the baseball/softball field maintenance program. He moved to have Mr. McLaughlin write a letter on behalf of the baseball/softball community for the county to fund the remaining \$200,000 shortfall of the baseball/softball field maintenance program. Ms. Bauer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Wills recommended that anyone who has girls in their programs should participate on the Action Plan Review Team. Mr. Sims said the APRT was set up to work with girls' softball—not all girls' sports.

Adjournment

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully,

Harold Leff
Secretary